

Matthews

2022 RESERVE CUVÉE



The 2022 Matthews Reserve Cuvée is comprised of several vineyard parcels within the greater Columbia Valley. Key sites are from Royal Slope (Solaksen, Scarline), Red Mountain (Quintessence, Red Mountain Vineyard, Two of Us Vineyard, Angela's Vineyard), and Horse Heaven Hills (Walulla Gap) allowing this wine to truly represent the broad flavor and aromatic expression of a Merlot-dominant blend from the diverse terroir of the Columbia Valley AVA.

The winemaking team worked with our vineyard managers to restrict yields, creating small, concentrated berries. Cool fall nights preserved freshness in the wine while continuing to develop flavor. Hand-harvesting took place in the early mornings in mid-October, and lasted into early November (a record for us).

At the winery, the fruit was destemmed and berry-sorted. Prior to fermentation, nearly 30% of volume was saignée from tank to ensure maximum concentration across all varietals. Fermentations were kept even throughout primary, lasting an average of 14-17 days. Afterward, the wine spent an extra 2-3 weeks in tank for extended maceration before being barreled down into 100% new French oak (Darnajou, Taransaud, Gamba, Sylvain, Quintessence). The wine was cellared for 21 months with 38 barrels selected and carefully blended, resulting in only 950 cases. The wine was bottled unfinned and unfiltered to preserve purity, vibrancy, and intensity.

The following clones were included in the final wine: Merlot 6, 181, 15, Cabernet Sauvignon: 2, 4, 191, 337, 8, Cabernet Franc 1, 214, 327, and Malbec clone 4.

"A rich Merlot-based, Pomerol-inspired blend with 18% Cabernet Franc, 13% Cabernet Sauvignon, and 8% Malbec, the 2022 Reserve Cuvée is textured with a velvety grip. Brooding black cherry cola presents as deeply concentrated and full-bodied, accented in dried herb, tobacco, leaf, and leathery saddle... The good bones show beautiful aging potential of 20-30 years."

98 POINTS, VIRGINIE BOONE, JEBDUNNUCK.COM

"...The entry is powerful and compact, delivering layers of wild blueberry, elderberry compote, and mission fig, interwoven with iron, clove, and charred rosemary. Tannins are grippy but polished, giving structure to the wine's muscular core. Hints of graphite, burnt orange peel, and baking spice add further complexity as the wine moves through a long, savory finish. Despite its depth and concentration, there's clarity and drive - each element feels carved and purposeful. This is a bold, age-worthy red blend that rewards patience, and while already compelling, it will reveal far greater nuance with a few more years in bottle. Highly recommended."

97 POINTS, JEREMY YOUNG, INTERNATIONAL WINE REPORT

SELECT VINEYARDS

Red Mountain AVA	Red Mountain, Quintessence, Angela's, Two of Us
Horse Heaven Hills AVA	Wallula Gap
Royal Slope AVA	Solaksen, Scarline

AVA	Columbia Valley
Varietals	61% Merlot, 18% Cabernet Franc, 13% Cabernet Sauvignon, 8% Malbec
Fermentation	Fermented for 12-15 days in stainless steel, with over 30 days of extended maceration.
Aging	Aged 21 months in 100% new French oak.
Alcohol	15.1%
Cases	950
Best Between	Now - 2040
Retail	\$145

